Preparatory Committee for the 2000 Review
Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on
the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Second session
Geneva, 27 April - 8 May 1998

Summary of Canadian proposals

Submitted by Canada

Report of the Preparatory Committee on its second session

I INTRODUCTION

II SUBSTANTIVE AND PROCEDURAL ISSUES

A. *Substantive issues considered by the Preparatory Committee at its second session*

1. Pursuant to the Chairman's Statement contained in document NPT/CONF.2000/PC.I/31, time was allocated at the second session for the discussion on and consideration of 3 subject areas:

(a) Security assurances

-text to be inserted-

(b) The resolution on the Middle East

-text to be inserted-

(c) FMCT

The States Parties present at the PrepCom reaffirmed the value of an effective FMCT, in accordance with the Principles and Objectives. They strongly urge an immediate commencement to and early conclusion of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on that basis.

2. The Preparatory Committee, in conformity with its task to consider principles, objectives and ways in order to promote the fully implementation of the Treaty, also considered other issues during this session:

(a) Non-proliferation

The Committee noted the continuing risks to international peace and security by nuclear proliferation and re-emphasized the urgency and importance of achieving the universality of the Treaty, particularly by the accession to the Treaty at the earliest possible date of those States possessing nuclear capabilities. States parties renewed their commitments to make determined efforts to achieve this goal. They also supported proposals to establish nuclear-weapon-free zones in parts of the world where they do not exist, such as the Middle East and South Asia, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the regions concerned as a measure towards the strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and to realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament.

(b) START

The Committee noted, during its discussions concerning the implementation of Article VI of the Treaty, that the START process, as a key element in systematic and progressive efforts towards the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, must be pursued energetically and diligently. States parties participating in the Committee urged the United States of America and the Russian Federation to take all steps necessary to approve and implement as quickly as possible START II and associated agreements and undertakings. These States parties also noted the importance of the Joint Statement on Parameters on Future Reductions in Nuclear Forces signed by Presidents Clinton and Yeltsin on March 21, 1997, which set out parameters for negotiations on a START III agreement. They equally urged the two States parties concerned to act as soon as possible on the implementation of that Joint Statement. Finally, States parties expressed the view that this process of negotiated nuclear weapons reductions and transparency measures should be expanded at an appropriate point in the near future to include all five nuclear weapon States parties.

(c) CTBT

The States Parties present at the Preparatory Committee affirmed their view that, in accordance with Article XIV, paragraph 2, of the CTBT, the political conference provided for by that Article should be convened for the first time in 1999.

(d) Safeguards

The Committee noted the support of States Parties present for early conclusion by all states with NPT-type Safeguards Agreements of Additional Protocols to their respective Safeguards Agreement, and urged that the maximum possible number of such agreements be concluded by the 2000 NPT Review Conference.

B. Organization of work of the Preparatory Committee

C. Organization of the 2000 Review Conference

III RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NEXT SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

nb. Text in italics comprise Canadian proposals that are subject to agreement.